

### In the Claims

1. (Original) A method of forming a two dimensional map of a three dimensional environment, there being a map origin located in the three dimensional environment, a viewing direction vector defined passing through the map origin, and a one-to-one correspondence between map positions in the map and the directions of vectors passing through the map origin;

the method comprising the steps of:

associating an environment position in the three dimensional environment with a folded vector that passes through the map origin, the folded vector lying in a plane containing both the viewing direction vector and the environment position and forming an angle with the viewing direction vector that is a predetermined function of the angle between the viewing direction vector and a vector between the map origin and the environment position;

associating an environment position with the map position corresponding to the direction of the folded vector associated with that environment position; and

deriving properties for a map position from the properties of the corresponding environment position.

2. (Original) A method according to claim 1, in which the predetermined function is a multiplication by a predetermined quantity.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 2, in which the predetermined function is a multiplication by 0.5.

4. (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the one-to-one correspondence of a map point with the direction of a vector through the map origin represents a projection onto a predetermined plane of a point on the vector which is a predetermined distance from the map origin.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4, in which the predetermined plane is a plane orthogonal to the viewing direction vector.

6. (Currently Amended) An image rendering method comprising the steps of:  
generating a two dimensional map of a three dimensional environment using a method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1;

for a point of interest on an object to be displayed, deriving a reflection vector in dependence on a normal vector at the point of interest and a direction of view;

referencing a position in the two dimensional map using the reflection vector, to detect environmental properties at that map position; and

varying the appearance of the object at the point of interest in dependence on the detected environmental properties.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 6, in which the varying step is performed in dependence on a reflectivity of the object at the point of interest.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 6 ~~or claim 7~~, in which the environmental properties represent lighting properties.

9. (Currently Amended) Computer software having program code for carrying out a method according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1.

10. (Original) A providing medium by which software according to claim 9 is provided.

11. (Original) A medium according to claim 10, the medium being a transmission medium.

12. (Original) A medium according to claim 10, the medium being a storage medium.

13. (Original) Apparatus for forming a two dimensional map of a three dimensional environment, there being a map origin located in the three dimensional environment, a viewing direction vector defined passing through the map origin, and a one-to-one correspondence between map positions in the map and the directions of vectors passing through the map origin; the apparatus comprising:

means for associating an environment position in the three dimensional environment with a folded vector that passes through the map origin, the folded vector lying in a plane containing both the viewing direction vector and the environment position and forming an angle with the viewing direction vector that is a predetermined function of the angle between the viewing direction vector and a vector between the map origin and the environment position;

means for associating an environment position with the map position corresponding to the direction of the folded vector associated with that environment position; and

means for deriving properties for a map position from the properties of the corresponding environment position.

14. (Original) An image rendering apparatus comprising:

map generating apparatus according to claim 13;

means for deriving a reflection vector, in respect of a point of interest on an object to be displayed, in dependence on a normal vector at the point of interest and a direction of view;

means for referencing a position in the two dimensional map using the reflection vector, to detect environmental properties at that map position; and

means for varying the appearance of the object at the point of interest in dependence on the detected environmental properties.

15. (Currently Amended) A video game machine comprising apparatus according to claim 13 ~~or claim 14~~.